Performance Indicators

What are ‘performance indicators’?

Performance Indicators refers to the monitoring and reporting of statistics in relation to the state’s planning system. It also relates to the monitoring of the strategic planning or performance targets of Joint Planning Boards or State Planning Policies. Monitoring the development application process relates to collecting data such as assessment decision outcomes and timeframes, or the numbers of applications being processed to enable reporting across the planning sector.

Will councils still need to provide quarterly DA statistics to DPTI?

In short - no. It is intended that the new state-wide ePlanning platform will instead constantly capture all relevant data and accumulate it into the system where it can be retrieved as required. The ongoing collection of data should therefore obviate the need for councils to submit planning data each quarter.

Will the new system indicators scheme be able to monitor trends in development activity, as well as standard information, like timeframes for development assessment?

Yes. While there are a number of fields of expected information that will be collected in the new ePlanning platform, the system will be more intelligent and responsive to individual inquiry, able to draw statistics together to produce comparative analysis of data, whether over time, between different types of development or across various geographical zones or council areas.

How will professionals or the public be able to access statistics on the planning system?

The State Planning Commission is required to release an annual report which will include statistics and other information about the operation of the new planning system. Further, whilst the ePlanning system is still in development, it is envisaged that once it is fully up and running it will include online capabilities - for both professionals and the public - to be able to access data and statistics on the planning system. This could include being able to create graphs or charts, textual reports and potentially spatial mapping identifying statistics geographically.

Will there be the ability to access only specific sets of statistics people are interested in and to create customised reports?

DPTI planners are currently looking at similar online planning systems in other states and jurisdictions to understand what capacities can be built into our new ePlanning solution, including what key information planners and the public seek online and is the most accessed. It is envisaged that users will be offered simple ways to compile data in order to customise their own individual reports about all aspects of the development sector.
**Will professionals or the public be able to compare the performance or other statistics of different planning authorities?**

Yes. Because all planning authorities will submit development applications via the SA Planning Portal, this means it will become the single entry point for all planning proposals across our state. As such, data collected will be able to be compared between different planning authorities or geographical regions etc.

**How will planning statistics be used by the state government in the new system?**

The main purpose of performance indicators in reporting to government is to identify where and how adjustments in policies, legislation and administration could potentially lead to greater equity and improved efficiencies in the planning system. Improvements to the planning system can be identified by analysing statistics over time, which can then be addressed through remedial measures.

**Will councils still need to provide statistics to the ABS in the new system?**

It is intended that the SA Planning Portal should be an easy to use platform for all users, whether they are planning professionals or interested members of the public. Among a number of clear imperatives is that the new planning system should be open and transparent to all parties. In due course the Australian Bureau of Statistics should therefore be able to access relevant statistics directly from the Portal for their specific purposes in order to report on South Australia’s housing or development trends when and as needed.

**Will the State Government release annual reports on the operation of the new planning system?**

Set data and statistics will be furnished to the State Planning Commission for its annual report in order to provide comprehensive information on the planning system to government; access to this data may also prove useful for individuals, whether planning industry professionals or members of the public.

**When will the new system indicators scheme under the PDI Act commence?**

Monitoring of the development sector will be aligned with the staged commencement of the Planning and Design Code and ePlanning system, which must be fully implemented and applied across the whole state by July 2020.